(a) whether it is a fact that on an average, tuberculosis has claimed three lives every two minutes in the country during the last decade;

(b) if not, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that incidence of this disease is four times higher among the persons whose standard of living is lower than of those whose standard living is high;

(d) if so, the details thereof and whether it is a fact that after every fifth patients of T.B. in the world, one is Indian;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reasons for spread of this disease on such a scale in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, however, the death from tuberculosis is showing a steady decline and has been reduced from an estimated 42 per lac population in the year 1990 to 28 per lac population in the year 2006 as per WHO Global TB Report.

(c) The incidence of tuberculosis disease is estimated from ARTI (Annual Risk of Tuberculosis Infection). ARTI is calculated on the basis of a Nationwide survey, the last of which was done in the year 2000-2003. As per latest ARTI survey, the incidence of tuberculosis is estimated to be 168 per lac population per year. This survey did not estimate the incidence of TB as per standard of living. However, there are few studies conducted in India on a limited scale which have shown that prevalence of tuberculosis is about 3-4 times higher in the lower economic strata.

(d) to (f) Yes Sir. India accounts for 1/5th of global burden of tuberculosis. However, as far as incidence of TB is concerned, as per latest WHO Global Report-2008, India ranks at 17th position amongst 22 high burden countries.

TB is transmitted through air from an infected person by coughing, or sneezing. All those persons who are infected with TB bacilli do not develop TB disease. There is a 10% life time risk that an infected person will develop active TB disease and this risk is more in malnourished persons and those living in crowded and poorly ventilated houses.

Mechanism for purchase of drugs

2098.SHRI DARA SINGH:
SHRI RAM DAS AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at present there is no uniform system for purchase of drugs both at the Central and State levels for supply to Government hospitals/CGHS dispensaries; and

(b) if so, what steps Government proposes to take to ensure that quality drugs are purchased and they have active ingredients at the maximum level throughout the shelf life period of the drug as

well as to ensure that it does not allow drug, manufacturer and supplier to raise MRP for general public?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) Health being a State subject, such information is not maintained Centrally.

In so far as Central Government Hospitals/CGHS dispensaries outside Delhi are concerned, the purchase of medicines and drugs is made by the Medical Store Organisation against annual indents sent by these hospitals/dispensaries as per approved formulary and observing other codal formalities. The medicines and drugs which are not available through MSO are procured locally through tenders.

So far as CGHS dispensaries in Delhi are concerned, drugs are procured through M/s Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation (HSCC) on approved terms and conditions of Medical Store Organization (MSO).

The quality of medicines and drugs are tested at Govt. approved laboratories before use. 5/6th of the total shelf life of the medicines supplied has to be available at the time of supply.

Organ transplant, procurement and distribution centres

2099.SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to set up organ transplant, procurement and distribution centres in all the States in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith proposed functions of such centres; and

(c) by when the above centres are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The Organ Retrieval Banking Organization (ORBO) a national facility and nodal centre for the country is already operational at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi. A network of 15 hospitals (Government, Public and Charitable) with ORBO has been formed for smooth functioning and coordination for process of Organ Donation and Transplantation in Delhi.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Pollution explosion

2100.SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian population would overtake China by 2050;

(b) whether Government has taken any steps to control population explosion;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and